

LIMERICK FACTIONS NEARER A BREACH

Relations Between Republicans and Free 'taters Grow More Strained.

FEAR SERIOUS CONFLICT

Irregulars May Attack Castle, but Not Until Truce Ends.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD. Copyright, 1922, by THE NEW YORK HERALD. Limerick, March 10.—Pending the conclusion of negotiations between the rival leaders in Dublin, which early today were reported to have been broken off but afterward resumed, relations here are growing increasingly strained, and if a definite break occurs between the Irish Republican army regulars and the mutineers, who favor the republic rather than the Free State, serious fighting is almost sure to follow.

If bullets start to fly it is believed strong mediating influences will be brought to bear immediately, but it seems most desirable that such mediators, especially American supporters on both sides, should express themselves now and anticipate the tragedy of Irishmen shooting Irishmen. The irregulars say that four or five thousand reinforcements are on their way. If this is true, the position in only one direction—that there is the possibility of a serious conflict.

Gen. Brennan informed THE NEW YORK HERALD correspondent to-night that Thomas Dunne, a former deputy in the mid-Limerick brigade and one of the signers of the brigade proclamation during the previous year, has severed his connection with the I. R. A. mutineers, with the explanation that he was opposed to the treaty, but would not participate in civil war.

Irregulars Doomed to Fail.

The failure of the irregulars to respond to Minister of Defense Mucachy's repeated advances for a settlement, which would permit the irregulars to feel that their end had been achieved, seems to indicate that the irregulars are determined to exact of him a plain act of total submission. This they never will get. The irregulars, who are determined to relinquish the castle where they are garrisoned. The regulars will not do this. The regulars expect now an ultimatum from the irregulars. This will be rejected. Then, if the irregulars haven't been bluffing, they will attempt to oust the regulars, and fighting will have commenced. The present position, for it is virtually that, in which friendly relations are preserved, will last only until negotiations in Dublin are concluded. Wherefore official quarters are convinced that fighting if it begins will start on Sunday next.

While the negotiations are in progress, however, there is hope. According to a clearer interpretation of the point of view of the irregulars, the position of Limerick is simply a piece of political strategy. The Provisional Government obviously is trying to establish itself so firmly with the supporters of the treaty that the people, at the elections, will feel, if they vote against the treaty, that they are tearing down an established thing. The Republicans, on the other hand, are doing the opposite. They will say, the Republic. In other words, all this maneuvering is an attempt by each side to clothe its respective institution in the sanctity that the mind gives to things existing as against those which do not exist.

The motto of the irregulars, which appears as the dominant sentence on a new handbill that was circulated to-day, is "The Republic Still Lives." The bill is addressed especially to "men who have come to Limerick to support the Provisional Government. It urges them not to fight to subvert the republic, before the Irish people have sanctioned such subversion," and also urges no cooperation with the British.

The irregulars also have issued a reply to Richard Mulcahy, principally denying his statements and declaring that the mid-Limerick brigade's proclamation, which the Minister of Defense declared was issued before the British troops had evacuated the barracks, was issued after the I. R. A. headquarters had decided not to have the mid-Limerick brigade take charge of them.

Irregulars Reinforced.

The irregulars received a few more troops to-day. Their two armored cars showed more activity. Also they are extending their holdings, having taken up lodgments and positions close to the castle.

In the event fighting breaks out the irregulars will allow the regulars to take any parts of the city they desire, hoping that they will continue to make seizures of property throughout the community, so that the citizens will find their presence irksome and continue bringing pressure to bear to make them evacuate the city. The citizens already feel the pinch, as the hotels are filling rapidly with soldiers, from whom the prospects of any pay for lodging and rationing seems remote. In addition to these men on its hands, the town has about 3,000 unemployed, and the citizens say that every one feels the pinch of economic depression. The merchants fear to take action lest they may incite the soldiers to demolish houses, but the irregulars thus far have been very courteous.

SOUTH IRELAND DEPENDS ON HER AGRICULTURE

George Russell Advises Farmers of Their Power.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD. Copyright, 1922, by THE NEW YORK HERALD. New York Herald Bureau, Dublin, March 10.

George Russell, in the literary world a poet and mystic, appeared to-day in another role—that of agricultural adviser at the congress of the Irish Farmers Union. He emphasized the importance of agriculture in the Irish Free State. He said he was much concerned about that subject as taught in the primary and secondary schools than about the reform of universities. But the world "agriculture" was not mentioned in the new school programs. If the northeastern area went out of the Free State virtually nine-tenths of the wealth producing power in southern Ireland would depend upon agriculture. Eighty-five million pounds worth of agricultural exports, including the production of industries fostered by agriculture, amount to less than \$5,000,000 worth of manufactured articles would represent the trade of southern Ireland annually. Therefore the Free State Government should realize, said Mr. Russell, that their revenue would depend upon agriculture, as there is practically nothing else.

1,224 ARMY DEAD ON SHIP.

The army transport Cambrai, due here March 30, will bring the bodies of 1,224 American soldiers. This will be the last large transfer of dead from France, according to the Quartermaster-General of the Army. About 335 more bodies remain to be brought.

IRELAND WELL ABLE TO FINANCE HER OWN INDUSTRY AND TRADE

Contributions to British Treasury Usually About Double England's Services, Which Will Now Be Saved, Permitting Tremendous Reduction in Taxes and Leaving Means for Developing Country.

THE NEW YORK HERALD to-day presents another of its series of articles dealing with social, economic and industrial conditions in present day Ireland. This article deals with Irish capital available for further Irish development, the rivalry between the North and South Ireland for trade and commerce and free trade or protection.

Special Correspondence to THE NEW YORK HERALD. Copyright, 1922, by THE NEW YORK HERALD. New York Herald Bureau, Dublin, Feb. 22.

Solid as Ireland's condition on the commercial side is, her fiscal situation is even sadder. As has been shown, the Irish revenues to the Imperial Treasury have usually been about double what the actual cost of British services in Ireland have been. The last year for which the figures are available is no exception to this rule despite the fact that in that year a vote of many millions of pounds was charged against Ireland on account of the extraordinary measures taken for the preservation of order.

Naturally, as that vote included provision for the Black and Tans and for the special activities of the military, Irishmen will look with more than fiscal glee at its elimination from their schedule of revenues and expenditures. This represents merely the imperial revenues, without any figure for funds raised through Sinn Fein agencies or without reference to local rates and taxes.

The imperial revenue collected in Ireland for 1920 was:

Customs	£7,648,300
Excise	14,654,000
Land and window duties	2,476,000
Property and income tax	15,068,000
Land value duties	2,500
Post office, telegraph and telephone	2,037,000
Miscellaneous, incl. crown lands	155,000
Total	£42,089,000

This was 4.55 per cent. of the total revenue of the United Kingdom and was £11.1s. 1d. a head of the estimated population of Ireland.

Expenditure in Ireland during the same year was as follows:

Civil list and miscellaneous	£147,000
Local taxation, accounts, etc.	1,368,500
Police	2,208,000
Collection of taxes and customs	25,000
Post office services	2,081,000
Total	£42,221,000

In addition to the above the local taxation in Ireland during 1918-19 amounted to £6,855,056. All of this was spent for local purposes in addition to money borrowed and money granted out of imperial revenues. Figures for 1921 are not available because of the refusal of many local authorities to recognize the British Government Board authorities. Many of them reported to the Sinn Fein authorities, but the records have not been assembled.

Relief From Tax Burdens.

At any rate, Michael Collins and his fellows in the Provisional Government are confident that whatever new burdens may be imposed upon the nascent State they will not equal the old burdens of which that State has been free. For instance, though the new State assumes a share of the British imperial war debt, Ireland has already been paying that. She gets rid of any contribution to imperial defense. If Irish revenue was divided for imperial purposes as was British revenue she will be relieved upon this basis of some 30 per cent. of her taxes.

Needless to say, this is one of the arguments which are being quietly pressed on the stout burghers of Belfast to induce them to join fortunes with the south. It will mean a tremendous reduction immediately in the income tax, probably a cut from the 30 per cent. Britons pay to 10 per cent.

The argument cuts both ways, however. Belfast's contribution to the Irish revenues bulks large. The wealth of the banks in the two parts of Ireland is a fair index of the proportion of income tax the north pays and it is far above her proportion of 30 per cent. of the population. The same is true of both excise and customs, two other large items in the revenue.

Two changes of fiscal policy are foreshadowed in Dublin. One day, and they have to do with the two second largest items in the revenue—customs and excise. There is much talk of free trade and much talk of high license or some other means of cutting down the number of drinking places and further reducing the total amount of intoxicants consumed.

Tariff for Industry.

Those who advocate a tariff wall seek protection for infant Irish industries. If the south has its way this will be effected. Native boot and shoe factories, for instance, cannot at the moment compete with Northampton. Irish woollen goods are put without a tariff wall. It is only those things which Ireland can better produce herself which the protectionists seek to cover, and even then they only seek to cover them until they get on their feet. The tradition of British free trade is still strong in Ireland, and except in special circumstances it is not likely to be shattered.

A reform in the number of drinking places is one in which practically every one in Ireland is willing to join. As it is now, almost any one in Ireland can sell beer and spirits. There were in 1920 22,318 licenses in Ireland, as against 17,857 for Scotland and 146,154 for England and Wales. Yet the net receipts of duty on these licenses was only £77,590 for Ireland—a little over £2 each a year.

The preponderance of the balance of trade in favor of the south affords a definite hope for one other phase of Ireland's future and explains an old time Irish plaint. It proves that there is being created in the south every day new capital for the development of the south's resources, and it proves that that capital in the past has flowed first into the Irish banks and then into British and other foreign investments and, second, into Belfast banks and into capital for Belfast industries and again into British and other foreign investments.

It is clear, then, that Irish capital

ITALY DISAPPOINTED AT U. S. ABSTENTION

But Did Not Intend to Ask for American Financial Support.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD. Copyright, 1922, by THE NEW YORK HERALD. New York Herald Bureau, Rome, March 10.

The statement that the United States will not participate in the Genoa conference caused general disappointment here, although there is no evidence that the Italians intended to make appeals for financial support by America their primary consideration. The Italians desire the opportunity for meeting the Germans and the Bolsheviks and hope to find a common solution for the re-establishment of international business and economic relations, thus to attain nearer to the stabilization of European markets. While a bit skeptical about the miracles promised in international conferences, Italy generally feels there is hope that the conference will constitute a beginning of a new international cooperation.

The leading Italian political parties—the Catholic and the Socialist—favor relations with Germany and Russia. There is a small Nationalist minority, including the Fascist, hostile to admitting the Bolsheviks for fear of their propaganda. Also there are some manufacturers who oppose full reconciliation with Germany, fearing that the German economy will dump their cheap goods into Italian markets. But most of the banking, and especially the industrial, circles desire an understanding with Russia. Former Premier Nitti's newspapers especially welcome the Genoa conference as a justification of his book, "Europe Without Peace."

Italy concluded a trade agreement with Soviet Russia two months ago, but M. Vorovskii, the Bolshevik delegate to Italy, admits there has been little trade to date. He predicts a greater trade when Italy has her representative in Russia. It is stated that the Italian Trieste-Lloyd Line plans a steamship route to Odessa.

It is the opinion of former Foreign Minister Sforza that the Bolsheviks are coming to Genoa to make an economic capitulation regarding their petition sent to the Cannes conference. This opinion is generally shared in informed circles here.

ROMA, March 10 (Associated Press).

Commenting upon the American Government's decision, the *Messaggero*, in a semi-official statement, said the reason for America's refusal lay in the autumn Congressional campaign, which would be fought on a platform of American abstention from participating in European affairs. Besides, it said, America saw no use in being present at Genoa after the Anglo-French agreement to exclude discussion of German reparations.

BRITISH LIEUTENANT MURDERED IN BELFAST

125 Catholics, 42 Protestants Killed Since Last July.

BELFAST, March 10.—Lieut. Bruce of the Seaforth Highlanders was murdered in Albert street, in the Falls road district, this evening by a party of men supposed to be Sinn Feiners. The lieutenant was shot with revolvers. The greatest military activity following the killing, Lieut. Bruce was wearing civilian clothes and the motive for the murder is not known. Constable Cullen, who was shot in an attack in the Falls road earlier in the evening, died later from his wounds.

Suggests U. S. Absence May Kill Genoa Parley

LONDON, March 11 (Saturday).—The *Daily Mail* (owned by Lord Northcliffe), commenting this morning on the declaration of the United States to participate in the Genoa conference, says this fact so greatly deprives the conference of importance that some doubt is felt in political circles whether it will be held at all, and that its abandonment may be only a question of days.

The newspaper adds that by America's abstention the conference loses any utility it may ever have conceivably possessed and denounces it as a costly and grandiose scheme for humoring the Germans and the Bolsheviks.

LORDS MAY EXCLUDE PEERESSES FROM HOUSE

Strong Opposition Is Aroused to Seating of Women.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD. Copyright, 1922, by THE NEW YORK HERALD. New York Herald Bureau, London, March 10.

So much antagonism has developed in the House of Lords against women sitting there that peeresses in their own right are threatened to be kept out after all, despite the recommendation of the special committee, and Viscountess Rhonda's application is likely to fail ultimately. Although the Attorney-General has not objected and the Committee on Privileges reported favorably on her application, the matter must be approved by the House of Lords itself, and other peeresses have shown such enthusiasm to gain seats that the honorable gentleman fear that the ancient chamber is doomed to lose all its traditions if they are successful.

They are campaigning vigorously and there is a movement to issue a special appeal to "backwoodsmen"—noble lords who spend their time in the country or at Monte Carlo and almost never take their seats—to attend and defeat the proposal. Further legal points are being dug up for presentation at a full sitting of the Law Lords Committee and it is reported that this body as well as the house itself has a majority sufficient to keep out the women.

BRITISH MACHINISTS' LOCKOUT BEGINS TO-DAY

LONDON, March 11, Saturday. (Associated Press.)—An eleven hour attempt to avert the lockout in the engineering trade, which would affect 1,000,000 machinists and helpers, was made after midnight when the employers conferred at length with the engineers and delegates of other unions, but the negotiations failed and the lockout will become effective, so far as the engineers are concerned, at noon to-day.

The employers, however, have proposed that the other unions indirectly affected take a ballot of their members, the result to be made known on March 25, when all those who do not accept the employers' offer would be dismissed. It is hinted that acceptance is improbable. The dispute largely involves the question of overtime, to which the workers are objecting as tending to increase unemployment, and the further question of whether the workers shall be given a voice in deciding what constitutes unavoidable overtime.

The dispute is in dispute is the determination of the employers to maintain the principle of the right of employers to exercise managerial functions, which must be accepted by the employers' representatives before the lockout notices could be suspended.

GERMANY ABIDES BY GENOA PROGRAM

Official Calls American Attitude Logical, Presaging Little From Parley.

Berlin, March 10 (Associated Press).—At the Foreign Office to-day it was announced that the German Government would loyally abide by the program for the Genoa economic conference upon by Premiers Lloyd George and Poincare, and make no attempt to have it altered.

"The American attitude obviously is logical and seems to promise an unproductive outcome for the Genoa parley," the foreign official continued. "Any conference pretending to tackle the task of European economic reconstruction cannot avoid including reparations in the scope of its deliberations, as the depreciation of the mark, which is one of the mainstays in the prevailing disorganization, is directly traceable to that source and other factors emanating from the Versailles treaty."

Official German newspaper comment on the American note apparently has in a large measure dissipated the early feelings of regret that the United States would not participate in the Genoa conference, chiefly because the German reading of the note seemingly has caused the people to infer that the Washington Government is convinced that the proposed elimination of reparations and other allied issues from the conference program definitely restricts the scope of the deliberations. The German note was not affected by the note.

The editorial comment is in effect that while the American Government's communication must be regarded as a warning to take part in the Genoa discussions, it informs the Allies they have taken the wrong road and also implies that America is aiming to bring increased moral pressure on the old world.

MAY EXTEND GERMAN PAYMENTS IN KIND

PARIS, March 10 (Associated Press).—About 13,000,000 gold marks annually is the cost of maintaining the Reparations Commission, according to the budget estimates of the commission, given out to-day. The span includes the expenses of subsidiary bodies.

The allied Finance Ministers today discussed the question of extending the scope of the Wiesbaden reparations agreement between France and Germany, so as to make Germany's payments in kind applicable to all the Allies. The point at issue is the amount of deliveries Germany should make to France for the devastated regions, some of the Allies desiring to limit the amount to 500,000,000 gold marks' worth of material, so as to leave part of Germany's capacity for payments in kind available for the other Allies, Belgium, Italy and Great Britain.

French concession on payment for the Sarre coal mines out of the first sums due her from Germany. It was understood to-day may be compensated by a slight increase in this amount. The Finance Ministers were understood to have agreed to limit the future demands on Germany for the expenses of military occupation to 220,000,000 gold marks annually.

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